AGENDA

CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR OPTICIANS

Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at 9:00 AM
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT
2nd Floor, Law Library

CALL TO ORDER

I. MINUTES

Review and approval of the minutes from August 29, 2007.

II. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

- A. Department of Public Health Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges Cohen's Fashion Optical Petition No. 2007-0719-057-004
- B. Memorandum of Decision Cohen's Fashion Optical – Petition No. 2007-0719-057-004
- C Investigations Update

 Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit, Department of Public Health
- D. Examination Update

 Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Examination Analyst, Department of Public Health
- E. Examination Appeals

 Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Examination Analyst, Department of Public Health
- F. Schedule Meeting dates for 2008.

IV. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians held a meeting on May 2, 2007 at the Department of Public Health, Capitol Avenue, Conference Room E, Second Floor, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Raymond P. Dennis, LO, Chairman

Ann Tosca, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit, DPH

Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Examination Analyst, DPH

Stephen Carragher, Health Program Supervisor, DPH

Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison

Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH

Chairperson Raymond Dennis called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

MINUTES - May 2, 2007, July 9, 2007

The minutes of the May 2, 2007 and July 9, 2007 meetings were reviewed. Mr. Dennis moved and Ms. Tosca seconded that these minutes be approved as written. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. <u>Investigations Update</u>

Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit advised the Board that there is one case pending regarding an Optical shop.

B. Reinstatement Application

Stephen Carragher, Health Program Supervisor, advised the Board that the Department has received an application for licensure reinstatement for Jennifer Poston – License #001491. She last practiced as an Optician in December 2003. The Board recommended that her license be reinstated contingent upon continuing education and she will be referred to the Connecticut Opticians Association regarding continuing education programs.

C. Examination Update

Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Examination Analyst advised the Board of the dates for the upcoming examinations: Contact Lens - November 5, 2007 and Eyewear - November 12, 2007. September 14, 2007 is the deadline for applications.

Ms. Morales reported on the results of the June examinations. She indicated that 15 candidates wrote the Contact Lens Examination – 12 passed and 3 failed. 16 candidates wrote the Eyewear examination – 9 passed and 7 failed.

D. <u>Examination Appeals</u>

Three candidates appealed the results of the examination and appeared before the Board. Following a motion by Mr. Dennis and seconded by Ms. Tosca, the Board went into Executive session at 9:20 A.M. to review the examination results of the three candidates. After careful review and discussion by members of the Board, it was determined that the results would remain the same and the three candidates would be required to retake the examination in November 2007. The candidates will receive this information in writing as soon as possible. Following a motion by Ms. Tosca and seconded by Mr. Dennis the Executive Session adjourned at 9:40 A.M.

LEGAL OFFICE BUSINESS

Cohen's Fashion Optical – Petition No. 2007-0719-057-004

Motion for Summary Suspension

Assistant Attorney General Emily Melendez was present by telephone conference to provide counsel to the Board.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Motion for Summary Suspension regarding Cohen's Fashion Optical Shop with Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH. On or about July 11, 2007, the respondent's only licensed optician left employment without prior notice. Therefore, from about July 11, 2007 until about July 30, 2007 the respondent was open for business without a licensed optician on duty. The Department believes that the respondent's continued practice as a licensed optical store represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. Therefore, the Department requests that the Board summarily suspend respondent's license until a full hearing on the merits can be held. Cohen's Fashion Optical was open for business without a licensed optician on duty. One section of the Statement of Charges was amended and the Board approved the Summary Suspension. The Board scheduled a hearing regarding this matter on September 10, 2007 at 9:00 A.M. and the respondent will be sent a notice of the hearing. The board will be represented by an Assistant Attorney General.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dennis made a motion and Ms. Tosca seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Tosca, Public Member Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians